(b) The Central Information Branch of the Income Tax Department collects information relating to financial transactions from various sources like banks, registration authorities etc. This information is utilized for identification of persons not filing their return of income.

(c) Not applicable in view of above.

Measures to curb inflation

401. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that various monetary measures taken by Government had no effect on the spiraling inflation and prices of essential commodities continued to rise; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) and (b) Year on year inflation of 30 essential commodities at 7.88 per cent as on October 4, 2008 was higher compared to an inflation of 0.40 per cent as on October 6, 2007 and 7.72 per cent as on October 7, 2006.

Government is monitoring the price situation on a regular basis and containment of inflation remains high on its agenda. The Monetary policy of Reserve Bank of India, through an increase in cash reserve ratio (CRR) and increase in Repo rates, while being conducive to economic growth, has increase in Repo rates, while being conducive to economic growth, has attempted to contain inflationary expectations arising out of uncertainties in domestic and international environment. Monetary measures together with other policies, which *inter alia*, include strict fiscal discipline, rationalization of duties of essential items, effective supply-demand management of essential commodities through liberal tariff and trade policies, and strengthening of the public distribution system are gradually having their way through to moderate inflationary pressures. Year on year inflation moderated to 11.44 per cent as on October 4, 2008 compared to 12.91 per cent as on August 2, 2008.

Transaction records of FII

402. SHRI SHYAM BENEGAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the daily transaction records of FII that are routinely filed by various custodians with SEBI and with the RBI can be given; and

(b) if so, whether the transaction records for the first quarter of 2008 can be given after masking FII identity to ensure that investor privacy is not violated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) As per the extant SEBI Regulation for FIIs, all FIIs report the daily transactions data through their designated custodians to the SEBI. In view of the sensitivity involved, SEBI provides the information about gross purchase, sales and net investments in rupee and dollar terms of FIIs as a group on a daily basis.

(b) The information is enclosed as Statement.